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INFORMATION REPORT

1952: 40.

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DATE POSTED 13 Oct 60 25X1A

SUBJECT: Forgeries of Jewish Passport
Authorizations

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NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. According to source, Muhammad 'Abd-al-'Aziz, Director General of Passports and Nationality, became suspicious of the number of certificates being presented to his office authorizing the granting of passports and exit visas to Jews. These certificates were signed by the former Minister of Interior, Salih Jabr, and requested that 'Abd-al-'Aziz's office issue a passport to the bearer without the latter having to deposit three thousand Iraqi dinars as security to insure his return to Iraq.
2. The investigation which 'Abd-al-'Aziz then ordered revealed that the authorizations were forgeries, and that there were no carbon copies on file in the Ministry of Interior. A check of the Jews to whom these passports were issued was being made as of 11 September 1950.
3. On 11 September 1950 the CID raided some houses in the Abakhana quarter of Baghdad, arrested five Jews, and found printed forms and stationery from the Ministry of Interior. Under the direction of Salim Mahmud, these men had filled out forms authorizing the issuance of passports to Jews and had forged the name of the Minister of Interior to the certificates. Passports for Jews could be obtained in this manner for two or three hundred dinars, source asserts.
4. According to source, the above-mentioned forgeries were done with the knowledge and connivance of Salih Jabr,** who was sharing in the proceeds from the sale of the certificates. Yahya Qasim, editor of al-Sha'b, and 'Abd-al-Mahdi Bachari, deputy from Baara, were involved in the plot to forge Salih Jabr's signature to the authorizations.

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* [REDACTED] Comment. See [REDACTED] which contains information on Mahmud's unsuccessful attempt to smuggle Jews into Iran.

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** Comment. Jabr made every effort to be included in Wuri Sa'id's new cabinet where he (Jabr) would be in a position to conceal his connection with the forgeries. As of 16 September 1950 Jabr was planning a trip to Europe as soon as possible.

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By: 025